

Cooper Lake:

In 2009, the NYS DEC promulgated new dam safety regulations. This applies to all dam owners in NYS and the regulations were phased in based on dam hazard classification. Hazard classification is ranked A – C, with A being the least hazardous in terms of downstream exposures and C being the most hazardous. The hazard classification has nothing to do with the condition of the dam, just the impacts in the unlikely event of a failure of that structure. Cooper Lake is a C and the KWD also has 2 A's and 2 B's. Among other things, it requires that we conduct an Engineering Assessment (EA). The EA for Cooper Lake was completed in 2013 and was done by Arcadis, Inc. (EA's must be completed by firms that have particular expertise in dams and dam safety and cannot be done by a general civil engineer as per the regulations). In that report, they conclude that the dam, although structurally sound, does not have adequate spillway capacity to meet current standards. This is typical of almost all dams that are impacted by this regulation since most were constructed in the 1920's when construction standards were different. As a requirement of the EA, the KWD was required to submit a plan to bring Cooper Lake dam up to current standards. We submitted that plan and in 2014, hired Schnabel Engineering to proceed with the design of the improvements. They have completed Phase 1 of that work and the findings are presented in the Technical Memo that is attached. They have also submitted a proposal in the amount of \$139,600 to continue with Phase 2 of that work. The EA's for the two class B dams are due in 2015 and the cost of that work is \$100,000.